UNITED
NATIONS

A S

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/50/1020
S/1996/650
13 August 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fiftieth session
Agenda item 55
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 12 August 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 9 August 1996, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Osman Ertuğ, representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the fiftieth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 55, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hüseyin E. ÇELEM
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

96-20628 (E) 140896 150896

/...

ANNEX

Letter dated 9 August 1996 from Mr. Osman Ertuğ
addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the latest allegations made by the Greek Cypriot side in the letter dated 6 August 1996 addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot Chargé d'affaires a.i. at the United Nations (A/50/1019-S/1996/633 of 7 August 1996).

I would like to reiterate that the allegations contained in the above letter, like similar previous ones on the subject, are rejected in toto and do not merit a detailed reply. They simply emanate from the delusion of the Greek Cypriot side that there is only one sovereign authority in Cyprus, namely the Greek Cypriot side itself, which has jurisdiction and authority over the whole island. This is neither compatible with the bicommunal nature of the 1960 Republic of Cyprus, destroyed by the Greek Cypriots by force of arms in 1963, nor with present realities, namely the existence of two independent States, which have come about as a result of the Greek Cypriot campaign to "Hellenize" Cyprus.

All flights within the airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus take place with the knowledge and consent of the appropriate authorities of the State, and the Greek Cypriot usurper regime in the south has no jurisdiction or right of say over this matter.

The allegations being put out, ad nauseam, by the Greek Cypriot side on the subject of the "airspace of Cyprus" or its "sovereignty" and "territorial integrity" are pure propaganda, and constitute a veiled attempt to dominate Cyprus at the expense of the Turkish Cypriots. Furthermore, as I have often pointed out before, they are designed to create a smokescreen for the other side's massive rearmament campaign, coupled with its provocative posture, and its utter intransigence at the negotiating table. As recent examples of this adversarial and negative attitude, I would like to cite, respectively, the planned purchase by the Greek Cypriot National Guard of medium-range missiles capable of hitting targets in mainland Turkey, and assault helicopters, and the continued refusal of Mr. Clerides to respond positively to President Denktaş's invitation to meet with him face to face to discuss the terms of a negotiated settlement.

Therefore, rather than engaging in false propaganda and paying lip service to principles that should not be abused and exploited as a means of denying us our equal rights in Cyprus, it would be more sincere and certainly more constructive for the other side to focus on the negotiations aimed at resolving the dispute on a just and lasting basis.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 55, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Osman ERTUĞ
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus